

TRIBUTE TO LIZA JACKSON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Liza Jackson Preparatory School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida on their recent designation as a Model Charter School. As one of only six schools in the state of Florida to receive this designation, Liza Jackson Preparatory has proven itself to be in a class of its own when it comes to the education of our young individuals in Northwest Florida. It is an honor and a privilege to express my sincere congratulations to the entire Liza Jackson Preparatory community on their well-deserved recognition.

Founded by a group of education professionals who wanted more from public education than what was available through the traditional district schools, dedicated staff and extraordinarily involved parents have built Liza Jackson Preparatory into the remarkable institution that it is today. It is a place where the children come first and are taught to obtain the highest levels of achievement that they can.

Liza Jackson Preparatory prides itself on bringing together its dedicated parents in an effort to help guide and design the school's mission. Liza Jackson Preparatory used information gathered by organized parent groups to write its charter, which was subsequently submitted to the Okaloosa County's school board in 2000 and unanimously approved. Initially, the school opened its doors to 560 students in August of 2001 and today I am proud to say that enrollment is filled to capacity with an additional 700 children on the waiting list.

Mr. Speaker, over its first 2 years, Liza Jackson Preparatory School has shown that it is succeeding in its mission; to provide a comprehensive approach to education in order for students to successfully compete in the global community. On this occasion, I offer my sincere and heartfelt congratulations to Liza Jackson Preparatory School on their designation as a Model Charter School, and wish them the greatest of success in all that is to come.

YOUTH PRIDE DAY

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, April 12 marks the culmination of Youth Pride Week in Washington, DC with our Seventh Annual Youth Pride Day.

Youth Pride Day occurs every April in Washington, DC. It is the annual celebration for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender young people, which has brought over 10,000 youth together since its start in 1997. The celebration has grown from just 900 participants in 1997 to over 2,800 young people last year. Youth Pride Day has evolved into Youth Pride Week, which comprises over a dozen events ranging from a conference, dances, and poetry readings, to Youth Pride Day on Saturday.

The Youth Pride Alliance sponsors Youth Pride Day. The Alliance was founded in 1996, and its mission is to celebrate the dignity and courage of all young people as they discover their identities as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or straight. The Alliance challenges society to stop hate, violence, fear, isolation, and denial as it reminds us every young person deserves to live, to love, and to be loved.

We, who live in our Nation's Capital and are taxed without representation, feel a special affinity to any other group that has been denied the full rights and privileges, which most United States citizens enjoy. I remind the House that Washingtonians are taxed without representation.

I ask this House to join with me in welcoming all those attending Youth Pride Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 11, 2003

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was absent for roll No. 140 and 141. I respectfully request the RECORD to reflect that, had I been here, I would have voted "yea" on each.

HONORING JOHN JACOB RHODES
WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, April 12, 2003

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to announce that John Jacob Rhodes, former Republican Leader of the House of Representatives, is one of the first recipients of the Congressional Distinguished Service Medal. Together with Leader GEPHARDT, I established this award to recognize former Members of the House who served the American people with extraordinary distinction and selfless dedication. Leader GEPHARDT chose to honor Louis Stokes as his first award recipient, and I can think of no better person than John Rhodes to share this first tribute.

John Rhodes was born in Council Grove, Kansas, attending public schools and eventually Kansas State University. After moving east and graduating from Harvard Law School in 1941, he practiced law in Mesa, Arizona. He started his service to our Nation early as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps and a staff judge advocate of the Arizona National Guard. These experiences served him well during his thirty year career in the United States Congress.

First elected as a Republican to the 83rd Congress, John Rhodes went on to serve in fourteen succeeding Congresses. After twenty years in Congress, he had earned the respect of his peers and was elected Minority Leader of the House for the 93rd through 96th Congresses. These years saw John Rhodes lead his party from the dark days of Watergate to the resurgent presidency of Ronald Reagan.

And through it all, John Rhodes was considered a man of exemplary values, a true lead-

er, a great listener, and steadfast peacemaker. Those who know him best would say he has a quiet dignity, an implicit trustworthiness, and a tireless devotion to the people of America. Pulitzer prize-winning columnist George Will said it best:

One glance tells you. God had a Congressman in mind when he made John Rhodes. And he is just what the Founding Fathers had in mind when they designed the House of Representatives, the body intended to be the closest to the common man.

I can think of few equals to John Rhodes whose life and legislative careers merit the Congressional Distinguished Service Medal. We cannot thank him enough for his service to this Chamber and to our great country. I am truly honored to be able to present him with this award.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH G. ROBERTS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, April 12, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Joseph G. Roberts, beloved husband of Lia Roberts. Joe will be laid to rest on Saturday, April 12, 2003, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Joe was born on September 19, 1915 in Springfield, Missouri and died on April 7, 2003 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Growing up during the depression, Joe was best known for being a man of great integrity and honor. In 1941, Joe enlisted in the United States Air Force and served as a captain and pilot during World War II. He was later discharged with honors.

In 1949, Joe moved to Las Vegas and founded Roberts Roofing and went on to become a very successful businessman in the Las Vegas community. His dedication and generous contributions to the many charities he helped support will not be forgotten.

Joe, we thank you for your true spirit of life and your gracious manner. You will be missed by your many friends and loved ones.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Lia and family during this time of sorrow.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "STICK A
CORK IN THE CORK TARIFF ACT
OF 2003"

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, April 12, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to introduce my "Stick A Cork In The Cork Tariff Act of 2003," a bill that will assist small business and sportsmen by reducing the unfairly high import duty on cork.

Makers of fishing rods, and particularly fly-fishing rods, are under pressure to significantly increase the price of their equipment because of prohibitively high duties on cork. Cork is the primary component of a fishing pole's grip. It is not available domestically and must be imported. While the tariff on already-finished cork is 6 percent and lower, unfinished cork is subject to a 14 percent duty. Such unfinished cork is imported and subsequently handcrafted by